HF Happenings 727

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925

Volume 14, Issue 50, the week of 31 October 2016



The RaDAR Challenge

The RaDAR "Challenge" is a unique event aimed at promoting the use of Rapidly Deployable Amateur Radio stations. This challenge is for all licensed radio amateurs not limited to South Africa. The Challenge takes place from 00:00 UTC to 23:59 UTC on Saturday 5 November 2016

All amateur bands are allowed including cross band contacts via amateur radio satellites. Modes - CW, SSB, AM, FM or any legal digital mode. QSOs via terrestrial repeaters will NOT be allowed.

The RaDAR challenge requires more than a minimalistic information exchange. Accurate information exchange is considered more important than a large QSO count. Call sign, name, RS(T) report, QTH and grid locator. Note the grid locator can change as RaDAR operators are allowed to move position at any time.

The scoring is 1 point per QSO. There are various multipliers and bonus points. Log sheets must be submitted by 15 November 2016 and sent by e-mail to edleigh-ton@gmail.com.

Please read the 2016 Blue Book as well as visit www.radarops.co.za as Eddie has made some changes to the rules.

The PEARS HF DX Contest

The aim of the PEARS HF DX Contest is to encourage Southern African radio amateurs to work DX. The contest will take place on Sunday 6 November 2016 starting at 12:00 UTC and ending at 16:00 UTC. It is a phone only contest with activity on the 20, 15 and 10 metre band.

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You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/ hf happenings.asp

November

1 to 4 - Delmas Christmas Market 2 to 3 - Christmas Country Fair,

4 to 6 - Cape Classic 380, Montagu 5 - RaDAR Challenge; Elim Wine Festival, Overberg; Fanschhoek Craft Festival; Pure Boland Mark, Worcester; Winterton Street Festival; Irene Market; Pretoria Amateur Radio Club Flea Market 6 - PEARS HF Contest

11 to 13 - Knysna Timber Festival

13 - SARL Youth Net

16 to 18 - GWK Cherry Festival, Ficksburg

17 to 19 - Sandstone Steam Cherry Festival

19 - Antique Wireless Association AGM & Swopmeet

25 - Closing date for December Radio ZS articles

26 - West Rand Flea market 26 and 27 - CQ WW CW Contest

December

1 - Start of "Youth on the Air" Month

3 - International Day for Disabled

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You can participate as a single Operator, Base or Field Station or a Multi Operator, Base or Field station. Stations may use the maximum power permitted according to the regulations in the country of operation.

One point is earned for each QSO and a station may be contacted once on each contest band. Field stations must multiply their score by two (2) and a further multiplier of two (2) is available if the station uses a non-gain antenna with reference to a dipole. Then the score is multiplied by the number of countries contacted.

The exchange is your call sign and RS report. Log sheets must be submitted by 20 November 2016 to the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 10402, Linton Grange, Port Elizabeth, 6015 or by e-mail to contest@peham.co.za. No late submissions will be considered.

Pirate Alerts

SV2ASP/A - "The Daily DX" reports, "The SV2ASP/A call sign was pirated. DL5EBE reports that Apollo underwent major surgery last month and was hospitalized again all of last week. While he was laid up a phony was on 20 CW using his call sign.

Kostas, SV1DPI, also confirms this news and in addition reports Monk Apollo is now back in Mount Athos. 16 to 18 October was a pirate. (Bernie notes: Most likely the 22 and 23 October operations were also bogus).

Also pirated call signs were 4U1ITU, 5H3PM, HV0A, VU2TS and YI1H.

Friends of IOTA Update

The Friends of IOTA appeal "has now reached GBP 17 360 on its way to our initial target of GBP 25 000 needed to bring to fruition the paperless QSLing project", Roger Balister, G3KMA, reported on the IOTA website on 23 October.

"We have to thank 182 contributors in 36 countries for their generosity. It is just a matter now of one more push to reach the target. Enhancements to the existing IT in July have seen two thirds of new applicants using the Club Log paperless QSLing option for all or most credits claimed and well over half of all submissions are using it to some degree. Overall, some 36% of all credits claimed since early July are QSO matches.

This continues to make huge savings for applicants, which will grow rapidly as we expand the list of activations in the paperless QSLing pool and bring online the complete IOTA rewrite late next Spring".

Donations are still gratefully received through PayPal to the e-mail address <u>islandsontheair@outlook.com</u> (in the comments field add "Friends of IOTA" and your call sign to identify you). See <u>www.rsgbiota.org</u> for the complete report.

TQSL 2.3

A new version of TQSL (v2.3) is now available for install. The primary changes are additional local language translations and a rewrite of the call sign certificate request handling to eliminate the confusing signed/unsigned request questions. NOTE: there is a defect in the Windows version of TQSL 2.2.2 that when it offers to upgrade, prevents that upgrade from working correctly. If you encounter this, to update to TQSL 2.3 you need to manually download the update, http://www.arrl.org/tqsl-download, and then install it.

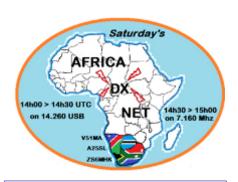


The Phantom and ham radio

The comic strip character The Phantom has used amateur radio several times in the past 70 years and the ARRL reports he is doing so again.

The venerable comic strip "The Phantom," originally inked by Lee Falk starting in the 1930s, has recently resurrected Amateur Radio as a plot device. "The Ghost Who Walks" has resorted to ham radio in the past, dating to the early days of the strip, when the

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Persons

3 and 4 - UK/EI DX SSB Contest

4 - SARL Digital Contest

7 - all schools close

10 - International Human Rights Day

10 and 11 - ARRL 10 m Contest

11 - SARL Youth Net

16 - Day of Reconciliation

17 - ZS3VDK AGM and Year-end at Die Sandgat

21 - Summer Solstice

25 - Christmas Day; Channukah (1st Day)

26 - Family Day

31 - Old Year's Eve; End of 2016 CQ Marathon and YOTA month

Worked All ZS Award

Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P, the League's Awards Manager, has announced that several new milestones have been achieved in the League's Worked All ZS awards programme.

Early in October, Pieter Jacobs, ZS6XT, became the second amateur to pass the 1 000 mark.

Not to be outdone, perennial leader Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, submitted applications for WAZS-1 600 and for 1 500 on SSB and on 7 MHz. He also upped his 3,5 MHz total to 800 and added WAZS on CW, a new mode for him.

Chris R. Burger, ZS6EZ submitted applications for WAZS-300 on CW, and for basic WAZS on 28 and then 21 MHz. These two bands complete his Five Band Worked All ZS, as he has complied with the requirements on each of the classic HF bands. A specific certificate was issued to commemorate this achievement. Chris also added the first WAZS-200 on 14 MHz to his collection.

Chris reports that the hardest requirement by far was to meet the quota of ZS5 stations. Both on 28 and 21 MHz, all the other requirements were in the bag more

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Phantom needed to get a vital message through - on one occasion using a phone patch.

In the latest appearance of amateur radio, The Phantom uses Morse code to establish communications to the Himalayas from his jungle hideaway, Skull Cave.

The series began with a daily newspaper strip on 17 February 1936, followed by a colour Sunday strip on 28 May 1939; both are still running. At its peak, over 100 million people daily read the strip and the character has been adapted for television, film and video games.

Appearing in more than 500 newspapers around the world, "The Phantom" now is penned by Mike Manley, written by Tony DePaul, and distributed by King Features. Wiki https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Phantom

Israel

Louis, ZS1LCD, is going to visit in Israel for two months from 4 November 2016. He will sign 4X/ZS1LCD from Kibbutz Ein Gev on the Sea of Galilee about 25 km from Tiberius. Louis says the QTH is 400 metres below sea level, so he could be the lowest radio amateur the world!

Louis will be on 20 metres most evenings between 18:00 and 22:00 UTC looking for ZS. Then from 03:00 to 05:00 UTC he will be on 40 m CW and SSB if conditions permit. He will be using a KWM2A with a TL922 into a TET34 beam.

African DX

Algeria, 7X. Special call sign 7U62AR will be active from 31 October to 6 November to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the Algerian Revolution that led to Algeria gaining its independence from France. QSL via SM4VPZ (direct).

Senegal, 6W. Leopoldo, I8LWL, Alfredo, IK7JWX, Ampelio, ISOAGY, Christian, ISOBWM, Loredana, ISOFFR, and Patrizio, ISOFQK are going on a DXpedition to Senegal together from 7 to 19 November. They will be active as 6V1IS from Dakar and from IOTA AF-045 on HF (SSB, CW, digital modes). QSL via IK7JWX, ClubLog OQRS.

Uganda, 5X. Alan, G3XAQ, will be active again as 5X1XA from Kampala, Uganda between 12 and 28 November. He will operate CW only and will participate in the CQ WW DX CW Contest. QSL via G3SWH (OQRS on www.g3swh.org.uk) and LoTW.

Botswana, A2. Giles, MOTGV, states, look for A25UK to be reactivated in the spring of 2017. A team of 10 individuals will be returning to Botswana for 10 days. Activity will be on 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. Some of the operators named are Nobby, G0VJG, Nick, G4FAL, Giles, M0TGV, Tony, G4LDL, and Edd, GM0WED. QSL via M0OXO or via ClubLog's OQRS. Look for more details to be forthcoming. Also, visit their Web page at www.prismembroidery.co.uk/dxexp/a25uk

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Madagascar, 5R. Eric, F6ICX, operates holiday-style from Sainte Marie Island (AF-090) between 6 November and 4 February 2017 as 5R8IC, mostly on CW. QSL via F6ICX (d/B).

Senegal, 6W, Senegal North group. The operators of 6V1IS (see above) are planning to pay Ngor Island (WW Loc. IK14fs) and Goree Island (WW Loc. IK14hq) both AF-045, a visit some time between 7 and 19 November as 6V1IS/p. QSL via IK7JWX, ClubLog OQRS.

than a year before he finally caught the last required ZS5 stations.

The Worked All ZS has become the SARL's most popular award. Over 600 certificates have been issued since the rules were revised in 2000. It is now possible to confirm over 1 000 South African call signs using only the League's SA-QSL online system. One might mention that the ground-breaking firsts generally involve effort over several decades, with lavish use of paper QSLs.

Read more about the Worked All ZS, the All Africa Award and the Top Band Certificate at www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp

National Geographic Guide to Ham Radio

The National Geographic Channel has produced a guide to amateur radio to support their recently released film *Before Mars*.

The short film 'Before Mars' provides background on two of the lead characters in the upcoming global event series Mars.

Teenage twin sisters Hana and Joon Seung who find an old ham radio transmitter-receiver in their attic and successfully use it to communicate with an astronaut on the International Space Station (ISS). In the story, that feat helps inspire the sisters to pursue careers in space exploration - one as an astronaut on the Mars mission, the other as an official at Mission Control.

The amateur radio researcher on the film was Michael Gilmer, N2MG.

Read the Ham Radio Guide at http://

channel.nationalgeographic.com/ mars/articles/a-guide-to-ham-radio/

Watch the 33 minute National Geographic Channel short film Before Mars at http:// channel.nationalgeographic.com/ mars/videos/before-mars/



Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 31 October to 7 November 2016

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 2 November

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA:

Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1

point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North Ameri-

can country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 4 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.perluma.com/
Phone_fray_contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 2 November and

03:00 - 04:00 UTC 3 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member:

Name and state, province or country Work stations: Once per band QSO Points: 1 point per QSO Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 5 November 2016 Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.cwops.org/cwt.html

UKEICC 80 m Contest

20:00 - 21:00 UTC 2 November

Mode: SSB Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op Connected - QRP, low or high; Single Op

Unconnected - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: 4-Character grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points Submit logs by: 22:00 UTC 2 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: http://logs.ukeicc.com/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.ukeicc.com/which-contest/which-contest

-ukeicc-80 m-contests-rules

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest

18:00 - 19:00 UTC (CW) and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (SSB) and

20:00 - 21:00 UTC (FM) and 21:00 - 22:00 UTC (Dig) 3 Novem-

ber

Mode: CW, SSB, FM, Digital

Bands: 10 m Only Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS(T) and 6-character grid square

QSO Points: (see rules) Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 17 November 2016

Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?

lang=en

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-

30mhz.html

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 4 November

Mode: RTTY Bands: (see rules) Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 4 November

Mode: CW Bands: (see rules) Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

IPARC CW Contest

06:00 - 10:00 UTC 5 November and 14:00 - 18:00 UTC 5 No-

vember Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; SWL

Exchange: USA IPA Members: RST, serial no, "IPA" and state; non-USA IPA Members: RST, serial no and "IPA"; non-IPA

Members: RST and serial no Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 5 points per QSO with IPA

Member

Multipliers: Each country once per band; Each US state once

per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 December 2016

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E-mail logs to: dj6qq@darc.de

Mail logs to: Uwe Greggersen, DJ6QQ, Hurststr 9, D-51645

Gummersbach, Germany Find rules at: www.iparc.de

Ukrainian DX Contest

12:00 UTC 5 November to 12:00 UTC 6 November

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - CW and SSB - QRP, low or high; Single Op All Band - CW or SSB - low of high; Single Op Single Band Mixed - CW and SSB; Multi-Single Mixed - CW

and SSB

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts Exchange: Ukraine: RS(T) and 2-letter oblast; non-Ukraine: RS

(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode – CW or SSB QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; non-UR Stations: 10 points per QSO with Ukraine

Multipliers: UR Stations: each DXCC/WAE country once per band; non-UR Stations: each DXCC/WAE country once per band; non-UR Stations: each Ukraine oblast once per band Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 December 2016 E-mail logs to: urdxc@ukr.net

Web-to-Cabrillo form: www.b4h.net/cabforms/

ukrainiandx_cab.php

Mail logs to: Ukrainian Contest Club HQ, PO Box 4850, Zapo-

rozhye 69118, Ukraine

Find rules at: http://urdxc.org/rules.php?english

RSGB International Sprint SSB Contest

17:00 - 21:00 UTC 5 November

Mode: SSB Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W

Exchange: your call sign, other stations call sign, serial no and

name

Work stations: Once per band QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 12 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/sprint.shtml

ARRL CW Sweepstakes Contest

21:00 UTC 5 November to 03:00 UTC 7 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Unlimited - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; School Club – College,

Technical or Secondary

Max operating hours: 24 with at least 30 minute off times Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Serial no, precedence (Q/A/B/U/M/S), your call

sign, check and ARRL/RAC Section Work stations: Once only QSO Points: 2 points per QSO

Multipliers: Each ARRL/RAC section and VE NT once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 22 November 2015

E-mail logs to: SSCW@arrl.org

Upload log at: http://contest-log-submission.arrl.org
Web-to-Cabrillo form: www.b4h.net/cabforms/

arrlsscw cab3.php

Mail logs to: November SS CW, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newing-

ton, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

IPARC SSB Contest

06:00 UTC-10:00 UTC 6 November and 14:00 UTC-18:00 UTC

6 November Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi; SWL

Exchange: USA IPA Members: RS, serial no, "IPA" and state; non-USA IPA Members: RS serial no and "IPA"; non-IPA Mem-

bers: RS and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 5 points per QSO with IPA

Member

Multipliers: Each country once per band; Each US state once

per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 December 2016 E-mail logs to: di6qq@darc.de

Mail logs to: Uwe Greggersen, DJ6QQ, Hurststr 9, D-51645

Gummersbach, Germany

Find rules at: http://www.iparc.de

EANET Sprint

08:00 - 12:00 UTC 6 November

Mode: Any Bands: Any

Classes: Individual - Spain or non-Spain; Club - Spain or non-

Spain - member or friend

Exchange: RS(T)
Work stations: Once

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with an individual; 3 points per QSO with a friend radio club; 5 points per QSO with a mem-

ber radio club

Multipliers: Each ISO 3166-1 country once

Each continent once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total coun-

tries x total continents

Submit logs by: 20 November 2016 E-mail logs to: eanet-sprint@fediea.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.fediea.org/news/?news=20161106

High Speed Club CW Contest

09:00 - 11:00 UTC 6 November and 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 6 No-

vember Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

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Classes: HSC Members; Non-Members;

QRP; SWL

Max power: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Members: RST and HSC no; non

-Members: RST and "NM"

Work stations: Once per band per period QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with a HSC

member; 1 points per QSO with a non-

member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO

points

Submit logs by: 27 November 2016 E-mail logs to: dr.joerg.hahn@gmail.com Mail logs to: Jorg Hahn, PA1MUC, HSC

Contest Manager, Crocusstraat 1, NL 2252 Find rules at: www.darc.de/referate/ukw-XH Voorschoten, The Netherlands

Find rules at: www.highspeedclub.org/

DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 11:00 - 17:00 UTC 6 November

Mode: RTTY, Amtor, Clover, PSK31, Pactor

Bands: 10 m Only Classes: Single Op; SWL Exchange: RST and serial no QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each WAE/DCXX area; Each

JA/W/VE call area

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO

points x total mults

Submit logs by: 21 November 2016 E-mail logs to: do1npf@darc.de Mail logs to: Peter Frank, DO1NPF, Postfach 11 19, 90515 Altdorf

Germany

funksport/corona/ teilnahmebedingungen/ HFsat will have 21 to 29 MHz transponder

US Naval Academy students are planning an amateur radio CubeSat carrying an HF transponder as well as 2m APRS. They are working with Bill, N6GHZ, on the HF transponder card which will provide a bandwidth of 30 kHz, the frequencies are currently 21,4 MHz uplink and 29,42 MHz downlink. Doppler shift will be reduced to less than 2 Hz per second by using an inverting transponder.

The satellite will be gravity gradient stabilized by its long full size 10 metre band half wave HF dipole antenna with tip masses.

Read more about HFsat at http://aprs.org/hfsat.html

Next Week's Contests

13 November

ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 8 November Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 9 November CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 November and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 November RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, SSB, 20:00 UTC-21:00 UTC 9 Novem-

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 UTC-02:15 UTC 11 November NCCC Sprint, 02:30 UTC-03:00 UTC 11 November WAE DX Contest, RTTY, 00:00 UTC 12 November to 23:59 UTC

10-10 International Fall Contest, Digital, 00:01 UTC 12 November to 23:59 UTC 13 November

JIDX Phone Contest, 07:00 UTC 12 November to 13:00 UTC 13 November

OK/OM DX Contest, CW, 12:00 UTC 12 November to 12:00 **UTC 13 November**

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 12:00 UTC 12 November to 24:00 UTC 13 November

Kentucky QSO Party, 14:00 UTC 12 November to 02:00 UTC 13 November

CQ-WE Contest, 19:00 - 23:00 UTC 12 November (CW/ Digital); 01:00 - 05:00 UTC 13 November (Phone); 19:00 -23:00 UTC 13 November (Phone) and 01:00 - 05:00 UTC 14 November (CW/Digital)

